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BROTHERHOOD RETREAT HELD AT TOMBIGBEE STATE PARK

A BAPTIST BROTHERHOOD RETREAT for North Mississippi was held May 16-17 at Tombigbee State Park near Tupelo. In photo above Rev. Mel Craft, of Magee, (right) Bible study leader for Retreat, discusses passage with Luther White, Lake Cormorant, (left), and Sylvester Moorhead, of Oxford, with lake serving as background.

REV. ROY COLLUM, of Philadelphia, who presided, goes over program with other leaders, from left: Tommy Robinson, West Point, pianist; Charles Crabb, Booneville, song leader; Mr. Collum; and Rev. E. L. Howell, director of Brotherhood Department, sponsor. A Retreat for south Mississippi was held May 8-10.

BSSB Loses Tax Exempt Status

NASHVILLE (BP) — The Southern Baptist Sunday School Board has been denied tax exempt status for its property under a ruling by the Metropolitan tax assessor here.

The Baptist board was one of six Nashville-based national religious agencies that fell under the tax assessor's ruling. Others were two Methodist, two National Baptist, and Seventh Day Adventist organizations.

Asked what action the Sunday School Board would take, Executive Secretary James L. Sullivan said, "we will appeal."

"However," added Sullivan, "the

nature of our appeal is uncertain at this time. We will need time to study the assessor's decision."

The board has been officially notified by the assessor's office that an assessment is forthcoming.

Board officials said that every assurance has been given the assessor's office that the board wishes to cooperate, but that assurance of cooperation should not be interpreted as an agreement to the removal of its tax exempt status.

Local news media reported that the assessor's decision resulted from a letter from the Metropolitan (Nashville) legal department which recommended "that these properties be assessed and that your office deny the

applications" for tax exempt status.

The ruling apparently would apply to all Nashville physical facilities owned by the Sunday School Board and the other five religious agencies.

"We want to follow and support the law, but the laws are vague," said Sullivan. He expressed a desire to help "all we can in interpreting the law."

It was on the point of clarification of the law that the Metropolitan law director based his decision to recommend removal of tax exempt status.

The board has, since its beginning in 1891, paid property tax on all properties it owns which are not used for activities related to the charter purposes of the institution. In 1966,

nearly \$40,000 was paid to Metropolitan Nashville in such taxes.

Officials have interpreted the laws of the State of Tennessee, however, as granting exemption from tax on properties used for charter purposes because the board is a religious and educational agency.

"Most of the board's properties are used for charter purposes in work directly related to Southern Baptist Churches," Sullivan said. "A few properties are held for future expansion needs," he added.

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Dr. Harold G. Basden Dies In Richmond

RICHMOND, Va. — Dr. Harold G. Basden, 51, associate secretary for promotion for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, died Friday morning, May 16, of a heart attack. He was at his home in Richmond, Va.

The staff of the Foreign Mission Board attended a memorial service in the chapel of the Board's headquarters building at noon on Friday, four hours after Dr. Basden's death, with Dr. Baker J. Cauthen, executive secretary, presiding. The funeral service was scheduled for 11:00 a. m., Monday, May 19, in the chapel of First Baptist Church, Richmond, where Dr. Basden was a member. Burial was to be in Richmond.

A native of Memphis, Tenn., Dr. Basden came to the Foreign Mission Board in January, 1964, from a 10-year pastorate at Gaston Avenue Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex. Earlier he was pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., and churches in Larue and Petty, Tex.

He was educated at Mississippi College, Clinton, where he received the bachelor of arts degree, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., where he received the master and doctor of theology degrees.

Dr. Basden served on various boards, commissions, and committees of the Mississippi and Texas Baptist conventions and of the Southern Baptist Convention. His leadership with the Baptist General Convention of Texas included membership on the executive board and the program coordinating committee, the Christian Life Commission, as chairman, the Committee on Separation of Church and State, and the board of trustees of Baylor University. He had been a member of the Radio and Television Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, and at death he was on the national board of trustees of Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

He was a member of Rotary International. At the Foreign Mission Board he directed the Board's deputation program, securing missionaries and

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KENNEDY SLAYER ONCE ATTENDED A BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL

"If Sirhan had met Jesus in San Antonio, do you suppose he would have shot Kennedy in Los Angeles?"

With this aching question, pastor Jimmy R. Allen closed an article in the church newspaper at the First Baptist Church of San Antonio, Texas, USA. He reminded members that Sirhan B. Sirhan, recently given the death sentence for the 1968 slaying, had once attended the San Antonio church's Sunday School. (Allen was not pastor then.)

"We missed him," wrote Allen. "Our chance to change things came and passed and we did not know it was there. A dark-skinned little boy sat through Sunday School classes for three years at a great Baptist church but someone missed him. His name was Sirhan Sirhan, and at age 24, he shot and killed Senator Robert Kennedy. In a welter of words and the shudder of grief throughout our nation, the persistent thought keeps recurring... someone missed him."

"How many have we missed? The question haunts me as I see families chasing fun and games, but demonstrating little interest in spiritual growth. The question haunts me as I watch young people come and go in our church, many of them giving little evidence of new birth."

The question haunts me as I ask myself just how many lonely, wandering ones have I overlooked while I was busy with something else. One other question: If Sirhan had met Jesus in San Antonio, do you suppose he would have shot Kennedy in Los Angeles?" — (EBPS)

Colleges Name Commencement Speakers

Mississippi College

Dr. W. Douglas Hudgins, executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, has been announced as the baccalaureate speaker for the Mississippi College commencement day activities.

Dr. Hudgins will address the graduates, their relatives and friends, in special worship services slated for 11 a. m. in Nelson Auditorium, Sunday, May 25.

The baccalaureate program will be the first activity in a full schedule for the graduates that day. Following the Nelson Auditorium ceremony, the scene will shift to the new City Auditorium in Jackson for the awarding of degrees at commencement ceremonies. Senator

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Blue Mountain

Blue Mountain College has announced that its baccalaureate service and commencement program for the 1968-69 annual session will be held on Sunday, June 1, at 11:00 a. m. and at 3:00 p. m., respectively, in Lowrey Memorial Church and Modena Lowrey Berry Auditorium.

With 88 applicants for degrees participating, closing exercises will include the baccalaureate sermon which will be preached by Dr. Joe T. Odle, editor of THE BAPTIST RECORD. Gandy Jackson, and the commencement address which will be delivered by Miss Evelyn Gandy, also of Jackson, former member of the Mississippi House of Representatives

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William Carey

William Carey College has invited two outstanding Mississippians to participate as speakers during the 1969 commencement exercises on May 24. Dr. Benjamin Graves, president of Millsaps College in Jackson, will deliver the commencement address in Thomas Fine Arts Auditorium

at 7:30 p. m. Hales, chaplain and assistant professor of religion and philosophy at the University of Southern Mississippi, will deliver the baccalaureate address at 11:00 a. m. Dr. Hales is the former pastor of the University Baptist Church of Hattiesburg.

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Clarke Memorial

Commencement activities at Clarke College on Saturday, May 24, will feature Rev. James E. Smith, pastor of First Church, Mendonhall, and Dr. Robert E. Craig, President of Union University, Jackson, Tennessee, as the speakers. The commencement service will be at 10 a. m. and the graduating exercises at 6 p. m., both activities to be held in the sanctuary of First Church, Newton, according to an announcement by President W. L. Compere.

The commencement sermon at the 10 a. m. service will be delivered by Rev. James E. Smith of Mendonhall. The son of Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Smith of Ackerman, he was born

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Stassen Headlines Laymen's Congress

NASHVILLE (BP)—Former Minnesota Governor and Presidential Candidate Harold Stassen will be among the headline speakers for the Baptist Men's Congress on Evangelism and Lay Involvement slated here July 3-5.

Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, Miss., president of the Pan American Union of Baptist Men which is sponsoring the meeting, announced Stassen's acceptance on the program. Cooper is president of the Mississippi and Coastal Chemical Corp., in Yazoo City.

Stassen is a former president of the American Baptist Convention, and is now an attorney in Philadelphia. He ran as a "peace candidate" for the Republican nomination as U.S. President, but lost the nomination to President Richard Nixon. He had been a presidential nomination candidate six times previously.

Gov. Buford Ellington of Tennessee will also be one of the speakers for the laymen's congress, which will seek to involve Baptists from about ten different Baptist bodies in North America, including Southern, American, National, and General Baptists.

Cooper announced several additional

speakers for the holiday weekend meeting for laymen. Included in the roster of new speakers recently accepting speaking assignments were:

Frank Foster, assistant pastor of National Memorial Baptist Church, Washington, D. C.; Wayne DeHart, of DeHart Motor Lines in Conover, N.C.; Ben Holt, an insurance executive in Pineville, La.; Kenneth Rose, a businessman in Maryville, Tenn.; Arlis Anderson of State College in Mississippi; Joe Sutton, a poultryman from Mount Vernon, Ill.; R. L. T. Beal, insurance man from Sparta, Va., and president of the Virginia Baptist General Association; and Gerald Borchert, professor at North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S.D.

Cooper had previously confirmed speaking assignments by a dozen speakers for the congress.

The program for the congress is being planned by a steering committee comprised of representatives from each of the 10 Baptist conventions invited to send laymen to the meeting. Combined membership of the 10 Baptist bodies is 20 million.

Texas, Florida, Maryland Lead Cooperative Giving

NASHVILLE (BP)—Texas, Florida and Maryland Baptist state conventions led all other states in three respective categories of giving to the world missions through the Cooperative Program, a report from the Southern Baptist Convention Stewardship Commission disclosed here.

Texas Baptists, who comprise the largest state convention in the SBC, given to missions through the Cooperative Program. During 1968 Texas Baptists gave \$4,288,000 through the Cooperative Program.

Maryland led all other Baptist state conventions in per capita giving to Southern Baptist mission causes through the Cooperative Program. Maryland Baptists, on a per capita basis, gave \$3.49 each to the SBC mission causes in 1968.

Florida barely nosed out Georgia for the top spot in the percentage of

their state budget going to the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program. Florida Baptists gave 45.37 per cent of their state budget to SBC causes, while Georgia Baptists allocated 45.76 per cent to SBC causes, a difference of .11 per cent.

The top ten states in each of these three categories — amount to the Cooperative Program, per capita giving to the Cooperative Program, and percentage of the state budget going to the Cooperative Program — were listed in a tabulation compiled by the SBC Stewardship Commission here.

In the amount (dollars) going to SBC causes, Texas was followed in rank by (2) Georgia, \$2 1/2 million; (3) North Carolina, \$1.84 million; (4) Florida, \$1.8 million; (5) Tennessee, \$1.76 million; (6) Virginia, \$1.68 million; (7) Alabama, \$1.65 million; (8) South

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Baptist-Catholic Dialogue Held

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (BP) — In the first Baptist-Catholic dialogue at Wake Forest University's Ecumenical Institute here, a group of 58 Southern Baptists and Roman Catholics adopted a resolution stating, "the principal focus of our interest is the unchallenged and overwhelming fact that we are brothers in Christ."

"We did not attempt to disguise our theological differences, but we were made aware of the mutual enrichment under the guidance of the Holy Spirit," said the resolution adopted at the end of the three-day conference.

The 19 Roman Catholics (including two bishops) and 39 Southern Baptists met "not as official representatives of an ecclesiastical group, but as individuals interested in promoting Christian unity," according to the resolution.

The event was sponsored by the Ecumenical Institute of Wake Forest

University, a North Carolina Baptist School. Brooks Hays, a former president of the Southern Baptist Convention is director of the institute, and Judson B. Allen, professor at the university, is secretary.

Hays, in evaluating the conference, said that "at least we are making a start in establishing the basis for a reconciliation between two important religious communities."

"I believe," Hays continued, "that Southern Baptists and Roman Catholics will become increasingly aware of the contributions that each has made to each other, and that the cement of Christian love will never again be in short supply."

A Catholic bishop from Washington, D.C., John S. Spence, put it even more strongly. "During these three days, the Holy Spirit has brought together members of heretofore estranged religious traditions and has

caused us to realize how much essential biblical faith we share in common."

Bishop Spence is a member of the U. S. Catholic Bishops committee for ecumenical and inter-religious affairs with a special assignment for dialogue with Baptists.

"This awakened consciousness of our spiritual kinship has created the desire, in fact, the demand for continued dialogue," Bishop Spence said.

The resolution adopted by the conference stated that the group was "united in a belief that a continuing dialogue is desirable, so that together we may better meet our responsibility to the gospel and serve the world in a period of great peril and staggering human problems."

"Consequently," concluded the resolution, "we propose to continue these discussions and to renew our efforts to acquaint those within our respective constituencies with the urgency of promoting the unity for which Christ prayed."

The resolution stated that it is believed "that this is the first meeting on such a broad scale, convened to discuss our (Baptist and Catholic) common heritage and to confront our historic differences."

Format for the three-day meeting featured six major papers delivered by both Baptist and Catholic theologians.

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Oklahoma Church Leads Convention With 344 Baptisms

NASHVILLE (BP) — The First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla., led the Southern Baptist Convention in the number of baptisms (conversions) for the second year in a row, a statistical summary prepared by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board here disclosed.

The statistical summary listed a total of 131 Southern Baptist churches with more than 100 conversions during 1968, 12 churches with more than 200, and three churches with more than 300 conversions.

The Del City, Okla., church where John Blagno is pastor topped the list with a total of 344 baptisms during the year.

Second on the list was First Baptist

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Baptist-Catholic Dialogue

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ians and officials, plus three dialogue group sessions and two fellowship hours. The final session was devoted to summaries and discussion from the various dialogue groups, and adoption of the resolution.

In one major address, Catholic theologian Killian McDonnell said that "Catholics have more to receive from Southern Baptists than they have to give them."

Baptists, said McDonnell, maintain that "salvation comes to the individual through a personal faith. . . . It is this personal moment in faith that Roman Catholicism tends to obscure." McDonnell, director of the Catholic Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research at Collegeville, Mich., added, however, that it is this concentration on experience that has been at the expense of theological elaboration that has in some cases weakened the role of the church. "Baptists look upon the church more as a convenience than a necessity," he said.

The "raging objectivism into which Catholicism sometimes falls," McDonnell said, "would give Baptist prayer life a deeper consciousness of the importance of corporate and formal worship."

But Baptists worship has something to teach Catholicism, he added, especially in the use of worship as an essential element in evangelism. Catholics, he said, have often floundered at evangelizing.

While Baptists sometimes accuse Catholics of idolatry, Baptists have their own problems here, for the seed of idolatry are carried in the tendency of Baptists to put down doctrinal controversy in the ranks, to concentrate on numerical growth and to call themselves a "miracle denomination," he said.

McDonnell added that Baptists' hesitancy to have extensive ecumenical contact is understood by Catholics, for Catholics also are latecomers to the movement.

Earlier, a Baptist professor of religion at the University of North Carolina, Samuel S. Hill, said that in general, Baptists believe that God speaks directly to them, that their religion is an internal experience, and that there thus is no need for sacraments or creeds.

Catholics, on the other hand, believe that God speaks not only privately to man but in secular and ordinary ways, through friendship, in nature, and in the world around them.

Thus, Hill said, "Catholic theology is better equipped to make a holy way out of the world than is Baptist theology."

Both approaches to a religious way of life, Hill said, present possible prevariations. Baptists by concentrating on inner spiritual experiences or privation may ignore their Christian responsibilities socially or politically, and Catholics run the risk of too much belief in "blessed secularity."

"How great it would be," Hill said, "if Catholics with their view that 'everything is grace-made-visible' could get together with Baptists with their marvelous inner sense of

God's presence. They would really have something."

Hill urged Baptists and Catholics to make a serious effort at overcoming the misunderstandings which divide them, but warned it would take more than "warm handshakes and friendly chatter."

If the confrontation is to be effective, "there must be serious talk on the differences—talk which is honest," Hill said.

Another major speaker, Ecumenical Institute Secretary Judson B. Allen, professor of English at Wake Forest University, said Baptists and evangelical Christians must come to understand their historical roots in medieval Christianity.

For Catholics, "a miracle of renewal took place when they laid hold on the Bible," Allen said. "For evangelicals, . . . the miracle will take place when we lay hold on history, and thus

find our kinship with other Christians by discovering that we had the same parents."

"Then," he observed, "the ecumenical problem will be, in a sense, solved because we will realize that brothers do not have to be twins."

A third Baptist speaker, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Professor E. Glen Hinson of Louisville, said that the Apostles' Creed, because it is thoroughly biblical and the most widely accepted confession to survive the centuries, may be the instrument around which Protestant, Catholic and Orthodox Christians can rally.

Hinson spoke to the group on the subject, "Creeds and the Faith." He said at the outset Baptists are hesitant about drawing up creeds, but not statements. This reluctance stems from their strict view that the Scriptures alone are "the only rule of faith

and practice" with no necessity for a creedal statement.

Hinson added, however, that ecumenical dialogue requires both that we understand ourselves and that other Christians and also non-Christians understand us. He stated that the summary of faith as stated in the Apostles' Creed is a starting place for such dialogue.

BSSB Loses Tax - - -

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The six nation-wide religious agencies denied property tax exemption status, in addition to the Sunday School Board, are the Methodist Publishing House, the Methodist Board of Evangelism, the Southern Publishing Association (Seventh Day Adventist), the National Baptist Publishing Board and the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc.



MC Reception Honors The Spells

NOTABLES AND HONOREE at the reception given at Hendrick House in Clinton honoring Dr. and Mrs. Howard Spell are, from the left, Mrs. D. M. Nelson, Sr., wife of the late president of Mississippi College; Mrs. Howard Spell, honoree; and Mrs. R. A. McEmore, first lady of the college for over a decade. Dr. Spell is retiring as Dean of the college.—(MC Photo)



New Orleans Belles

MRS. A. MORGAN BRIAN, a member of the Woman's Missionary Union of First Church, New Orleans, models the costume which ladies of the New Orleans Baptist Association will wear during the Southern Baptist WMU Convention during the week of June 9-13. The costume is like those worn by the women in the middle 18th century in Acadian Louisiana, said Mr. Brian who designed the costume. (BP) Photo

May Commencement Speakers

Miss. College - - -

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John Stennis (D-Miss.) will be the featured speaker at the 3 p. m. exercises.

Dr. and Mrs. Lewis Nobles, president and first lady of the college, will entertain the graduates and their parents with a reception in the lower lobby of the auditorium immediately following the graduation.

Honorary Degrees
A politician, a college administrator, a professor, a minister, and a businessman will all be awarded honorary doctor's degrees during Mississippi College's commencement services.

Announced as recipients of honorary degrees were Senator John C. Stennis (D - Miss.), Dr. Richard Aubrey McEmore, Clinton; Dr. William Otho Sadler, Clinton; Rev. James Robert Davis, Batesville; and B. C. Rogers, Morton.

The five honorary degrees will be awarded along with the 33 graduate and 350 undergraduate degrees that will be conferred by Dr. Lewis Nobles, college president.

All the recipients have excelled in their particular field of endeavor and all but one are graduates of the college. Senator Stennis and Mr. Rogers will both receive the doctor of laws degree, Dr. McEmore and Dr. Sadler the doctor of literature degree, and Mr. Davis the doctor of divinity degree.

Mississippi School of Law. She served as legislative assistant to the late Senator Theodore G. Bilbo and began the practice of law in her hometown of Hattiesburg in January, 1947. She is a former member of the Mississippi House of Representatives from Forrest County, a former attorney for the Department of Public Welfare and former assistant attorney general of the State of Mississippi. She served as State Treasurer 1960-64, the first woman in the history of the state to be elected to a statewide constitutional office. She served as Commissioner of Public Welfare 1964-67 and was elected to a second term as State Treasurer in 1967 without opposition. She is a Baptist and active in numerous professional and civic organizations.

William Carey College

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"Dr. Graves and Dr. Hales are no strangers to our campus," commented president J. Ralph Noonkester, "but, we are particularly delighted that they will be participating in this, our most significant day during the calendar year."

Approximately 165 students will be awarded one of three bachelor degrees (bachelor of arts, bachelor of music, and bachelor of science).

Commencement day schedule will begin with a senior class breakfast at 8:30 a. m. in Wilkes Dining Hall. The William Carey College alumni association, under the direction of president Louis Scott of Mobile, will entertain the seniors at the annual senior breakfast. All faculty members have been invited and will be seated with their respective majors.

Following the baccalaureate sermon the William Carey College board of trustees will meet for dinner and a regularly scheduled trustee meeting. At 5:00 p. m. president and Mrs. J. Ralph Noonkester will entertain all seniors and their parents for a buffet supper on the lawn of the president's home. This event will take the place of the senior reception which has heretofore been the annual affair for seniors and their families.

During commencement services two honorary doctoral degrees will be awarded by the board of trustees along with the regular baccalaureate presentations. The Carey College Chorus will perform at both of the day's services.

Clarke College - - -

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at Louisville, Kentucky, while his father was a student in Southern Seminary, and reared at Hollandale and Magee. He received the B.A. degree from Mississippi College and the B.D. degree from Southern Seminary. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Clarke College. His wife is the former Joyce Simpson of Jackson, and they are the parents of three children.

The Commencement Address at 6 p. m. will be delivered by Dr. Robert E. Craig, President of Union University, Jackson, Tennessee. Dr. Craig, a native of Mena, Ark., received the B. S. degree from East Texas Baptist College, Marshall, Texas, and the Master of Education degree from North Texas State University, Denton, Texas. He is an active Baptist layman, serving in his church as deacon, Sunday school superintendent and in other capacities. Under his six-year administration this junior college experienced "remarkable growth" and achieved four-year status. He accepted his position as President of Union in 1967.

His wife is the former Mary Jean Light and they have four children.

Ona Belle Cox Dies

Miss Ona Belle Cox, 48, a Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil who once said she "wouldn't trade places with anybody in the world," died Saturday morning, April 19, in Missouri Baptist Hospital, Saint Louis, after several months of illness.

For two years she had been Woman's Missionary Union representative for equatorial Brazil, with headquarters in Belem. She was previously principal of Ida Nelson Baptist School, in the inland port city of Manaus, where she served 12 years. During her first term as a missionary she taught in the Baptist school in Jaguaguara, in north Brazil.



Nursing Students Honor Hinds BSU Director

REV. HAROLD ST. GEMME, Hinds County Baptist Student Union director, was honored by University of Mississippi School of Nursing students for his contributions to and interest in their school at the annual School of Nursing Day in late April. Student-body president Brenda Royals of Lumberton presented a resolution of appreciation to the minister who has been BSU director since 1960.

Commencement Exercises Set For Baptist Seminary

Commencement exercises for Mississippi Baptist Seminary will be held at Sophia Sutton Mission Assembly near Prentiss, May 29-30.

Dr. Wm. P. Davis, Jackson, seminary president, said that degrees, diplomas and certificates would be awarded to 107 persons at the graduating exercises Friday morning at 10 o'clock.

Dr. W. D. Hudgins, executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Jackson, will be the principal speaker.

Dr. Hudgins, a native of Tennessee, is a graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn., with the B. A. degree and holds the Th. M. degree from Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

He was awarded the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree by Mississippi Col-

The baccalaureate service will be held on Thursday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock.

The principal speaker will be Dr. T. B. Brown, vice-president and academic dean of the Mississippi Baptist Seminary, and pastor of the Mt. Helm Baptist Church of Jackson.

Dr. Brown is a graduate of Natchez College and also a graduate of Jackson State College with a B.S. degree.

He also holds the M.S. degree from Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. and the B.D. degree from New Orleans Baptist Seminary.

The Mississippi Baptist Seminary conferred the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree upon him in 1960.

The 107 awards will be given in the following categories: Sunday School Workers Training diploma, Busy Pastor's certificate, Christian Training diploma, English Bible diploma, Junior College diploma, Bachelor of Religious Education degree, Christian Training certificate, Bachelor of Theology degree.

The candidates for awards will come from most of the 24 centers of the Seminary system scattered throughout the state.

The Central Center of the Seminary is located at 510 N. Farish Street, Jackson.

Miss Norma Goodson, of Jackson, will be soloist for the commencement service, with Joseph Robinson, also of Jackson, as accompanist.

The board of trustees of the Seminary will meet at 10 o'clock Thursday morning. Dr. Bob Simmons of Meridian is president of the group.

Crossing between intersections was responsible for 40 percent of the pedestrian deaths in 1968, according to annual figures compiled by The Travelers Insurance Companies. More than 9,600 pedestrians were blamed for their own deaths last year.

Cooperative Gifts Up 3.1% For Year

Mississippi Baptist Cooperative Program receipts for the first four months of this convention year, ending April 30, totaled \$1,355,337, according to A. L. Nelson, Jackson, treasurer and business manager of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

This is an increase of \$40,792, or 3.1 percent over the \$1,314,545 given the same period a year ago.

Receipts for April totaled \$313,116, an increase of \$15,598 or 5.2 percent over the \$297,518 contributed in April a year ago.

The Cooperative Program is the principal channel of mission giving of the denomination and accounts for about two-thirds of the total mission contributions.

Oklahoma Church Leads in Baptisms

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tist Church, Dallas, with 310 conversions (baptisms) during 1968. W. A. Criswell, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, is pastor.

Also reporting more than 300 baptisms during 1968 were First Church, DeRidder, La., where Emory Wallace is pastor. The Louisiana church listed 303 baptisms.

The research and statistic department of the SBC's Sunday School Board which prepared the report

made no comment or interpretation of the summary, releasing only the data.

Some Southern Baptists feel that the number of baptisms is an indication of the spiritual state of a church, while others feel you cannot measure quality or spirituality by quantity of baptisms.

The statistical report was prepared on the basis of a standard statistical summary mailed to the convention office here by each church in the denomination.

Other SBC churches listed in the top ten in number of baptisms (conversions) are:

Fourth, Mid City Church, New Orleans, La., 271; fifth, Beth Haven Church, Valley Station, Ky., 270; sixth, First Church, Lubbock, Tex., 255; seventh, First Baptist Church, Merritt Island, Fla., 242; eighth, Northwest Church, Miami, Fla., 238; Calvary Church, Colorado Springs, Colo., 230; and Clear Lake Church, Cocoa, Fla., 220.

Texas, Florida, Maryland Lead Cooperative Giving

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Carolina, \$1.61 million; (9) Oklahoma \$1.37 million; and (10) Missouri, \$1.24 million.

All states ranking in the top ten in amounts to SBC causes in 1967 repeated in 1968, but some shifts were made within the top ten. Florida moved from fifth in 1967 to fourth in 1968. Virginia replaced Alabama for sixth place, and Alabama slipped to seventh.

In the per capita giving to SBC causes category, first-ranked Maryland led (2) Virginia, \$3.22; (3) Florida, \$2.90; (4) S. Carolina, \$2.81; (5) Oklahoma, \$2.55; (6) Georgia, \$2.54; (7) Missouri, \$2.47; (8) Hawaii and Ohio (tie), \$2.42; and (10) Arkansas, \$2.39.

Hawaii, which tied with Ohio, moved into the top ten rank for the first time from 14th place in 1967.

Texas dropped from eighth to 12th rank, slipping from the top-ten list. Georgia moved up one rank to sixth, exchanging places with Missouri which dropped to seventh. Arkansas, which was ninth the previous year, ranked tenth in 1968.

In percentage of the state convention budget going to SBC causes, Florida and Georgia were followed in rank by (3) Oklahoma, 39.717%; (4)

Maryland, 39.577%; (5) Virginia, 38.367%; (6) Illinois, 36.607%; (7) Alabama, 33.957%; (8) Tennessee, 34.967%; (9) Arkansas 33.547%; and (10) Missouri, 33.5%.

Florida barely moved up to the first ranking spot from second in 1967. Missouri, which was sixth in 1967, dropped to tenth, with Alabama, Tennessee and Arkansas each moving up one rank.

Must "Re-Learn American Way"

Thursday, May 22, 1969

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 3

WAYNESBORO, Ga. (BP)—David Fite, returning to his home here after four years in a Cuban prison, said he needs time to "get used to being free again."

"I have to re-learn the American Way of life and I want my children to know and be proud of their country," said Fite in an interview with the Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle.

His three sons include one now four years old who had never before seen his father's country. The two others, now 10 and 12, don't remember it, for they were babies when they went with their parents to Cuba in 1960.

The youngest son had hardly seen his father except behind bars. He was one month old when Cuban guards arrested Fite on charges of illegal currency exchange and espionage.

The boys were fully informed about their father's plight from the beginning. "We never made up stories for them about where I was," Fite said. "They assumed responsibility as men of the house."

"It was harder on Margaret (Mrs. Fite) than on me," he added. "She had to take complete charge of the family and their needs."

The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board provided funds for the family's needs while Fite was in prison, but all food, clothing, and "every single item" is rationed in Cuba and it was not easy for them.

Although he was ill with hepatitis during the early years of his imprisonment, Fite looks not at all like a man just out of prison. His dark hair is not streaked with white, nor is his face lined.

His robust look is the result, most likely, of his last 18 months in prison which were spent working in Cuban fields, and from the vitamin pills his wife was allowed to provide.

Asked about a slight hesitancy in his speech, Fite chuckled and con-

fessed he was thinking in Spanish and translating into English, "especially when I talk about things I've talked very little about in English."

Saying he was not discriminated against as an American while in prison, Fite added, "I'm lucky; with my coloring, if I kept my mouth shut, they thought I was a Cuban."

The prisoners were not allowed literature, books or newspapers not published by the Cuban National Press. They were not allowed to hold religious services, but managed to get a copy of the Bible and "found ways to minister."

"My strong faith in God and a sense

of call and purpose in life sustained me during these years," Fite said.

About his parents, who worked unceasingly for their son's release, Fite said, "Their unending efforts paved the way for the act of mercy on the part of the Cuban government and facilitated our ability to leave the country so rapidly."

His father, pastor of Rosemont Heights Baptist Church in Waynesboro, and his mother spent 51 days in Cuba in 1967 pleading with authorities for their son's release.

Asked why he believes he was released, Fite said: "I believe it was a humanitarian act on the part of the

Cuban government which took into consideration the needs of my family and the health of my in-laws, and our desire to return to the U.S."

He was referring to the eyesight problems which plagued Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Caudill, both of whom suffered cataracts in Cuba. Caudill was allowed to have surgery while he was in prison, and was later released under house arrest because of his eyesight problems.

Fite spoke often in the interview of friends he made in prison. There are still about 20 Americans imprisoned there, he said, including a farmer and a businessman he knew who were accused of espionage.

What of the churches?

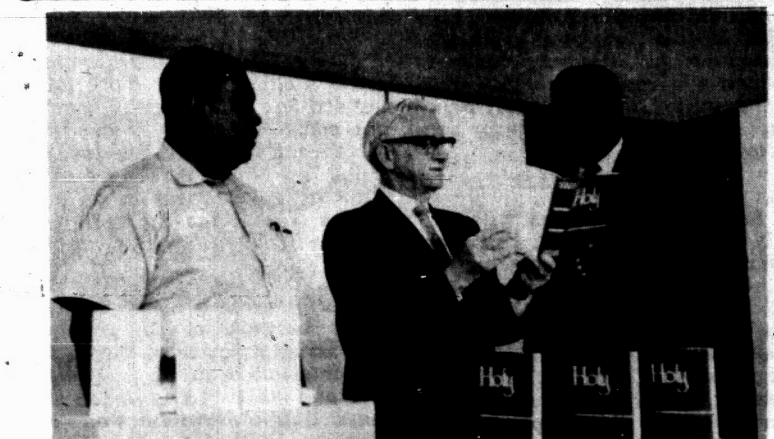
"No Baptist Convention of Western Cuba churches were closed by the government, nor has any had to close for lack of pastors in spite of the fact more than half of them were arrested," he said.

Margaret and David Fite went to Cuba in 1960, dedicated and hoping to help. They've come home nine years later, maybe disappointed, but without bitterness, and obviously with a deep love for the Cuban people."

Hannah F. Sallee Dies

Miss Hannah Fair Sallee, 81, missionary to China for 39 years before her retirement in 1952, died May 4 in Beeville, Tex., at the home of her sister. The funeral service was held at First Baptist Church, Beeville, and burial was in nearby Glenwood Cemetery.

Appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in May, 1913, Miss Sallee was principal of Eliza Yates girls' school, Shanghai, for 15 years. She later served as adviser to the Chinese principal and as a teacher in the Baptist institution. She also did evangelistic work at Grace Baptist Church, Shanghai.



Bibles For Tornado Victims

DR. WILLIAM P. DAVIS, director, Department of Work with National Baptists, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, top photo, shows Rev. George E. Meadows, associate pastor of First Church, Hazlehurst, a copy of one of the Bibles furnished by the American Bible Society to the Mississippi Baptist Seminary for distribution to tornado victims in the Hazlehurst area, and explosion victims at Laurel. More than 250 Bibles and 1,100 New Testaments were provided for distribution. First Baptist Church, Hazlehurst, was distributing point for the Hazlehurst area. Looking on in top photo are Joe Warren and Leonard Thompson, employees at the Baptist Building. Bibles are also given those whose homes were destroyed by fire in the railroad tank car explosions in Laurel. Every child in each family received a New Testament. Bottom photo, left to right: Leonard Thompson, Dr. Davis, and Rev. L. C. Collins, vice-president of the Interdenominational Ministers' Alliance of Laurel, the group which distributed the Bibles in that city.

Baptists in Eastern Europe Thrive Under Discrimination

This is an interview between James O. Duncan, editor of the Capital Baptist at Washington, D. C., and C. Ronald Goulding of London, associate secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, concerning Baptist work in Europe, and especially the Communist bloc countries of Eastern Europe.

DUNCAN: Dr. Goulding, all of us have been concerned about the fate of Baptists in Czechoslovakia since the Russian occupation of that country in August 1968. Can you tell us what is happening there?

GOULDING: Baptists in company with all Christian churches in Czechoslovakia are enjoying a period of continuing liberty in their activities. The people have a greater freedom in the teaching of their children in things religious. There is the possibility of building new churches in new areas. It is possible that there will be a greater separation between church and state, and that in the future the churches will be permitted to pay their own ministers.

DUNCAN: Are you saying that there is more freedom for Baptists in Czechoslovakia since the Russian invasion or was the freedom on its way before the Russians got there?

GOULDING: Certainly, the freedom was there from the very beginning of this period of liberalization. There has been a gradual improving of the situation for the Christian churches, and our Baptist people enjoy exactly the same privileges and responsibilities as any other Christian church in that country.

DUNCAN: Of all the countries in Eastern Europe, which one has the strongest Baptist witness?

GOULDING: In numbers, the strongest Baptist family in Europe is in Russia. We believe that there are

600,000 registered Baptist believers there, with a larger number — something like 3 to 4 million persons — attending the churches.

DUNCAN: In the other countries of Eastern Europe, which country has the largest group?

GOULDING: Undoubtedly, Romania. And here it is encouraging that the number of Baptist believers in Romania is increasing. Converts are being made, and people seeking to hear the Word of God are coming within the church.

DUNCAN: Why is this more true in Romania than in Poland or East Germany or some other country?

GOULDING: This is not easy to answer. The Baptist church in Romania is conservatively evangelical with something of the fervor and the courage of Pentecostalism. This Baptist spirit of freedom, outreach and enthusiasm is in contrast to the general Christian life of the country as contained within the orthodox church which for all its cultural beauty is rather static.

DUNCAN: Do you know of groups being persecuted in these countries today?

GOULDING: I am not sure what we mean by persecution, because there are so many degrees of it. I do not think of persecution against any group now except perhaps the dissident group in the U.S.S.R.—the group that has broken away from the Baptist Union. Undoubtedly here is persecution as we would term it, but the authorities in that country would say that this is the normal process of law. I do not know of any other situations of that type. However, there is an apparent discrimination against Christians in a considerable number of places.

DUNCAN: Is it still the Communist

goal to abolish the church and the Christian faith?

GOULDING: There has never been any change in the ideology of Marxist Communism that there is no place for God or for an organized church in organized society.

DUNCAN: What success are the Communists having?

GOULDING: If one reads the Communists' own comments on their success, they are rather disappointed. Some of their writers, particularly from the U.S.S.R., have felt that they have not made the progress that they could wish. They have even complained that Christian activity has grown in spite of the pressure.

DUNCAN: Do you know of places where the Communist leaders look upon these people and their dedication with perhaps a sense of appreciation?

GOULDING: Where Christians are performing a role in society as an expression of their Christian faith, where their morality is outstanding, where their integrity is relied upon, where their love for humanity is expressed, there is evidence of definite respect for what they are doing on humanitarian and social grounds. This form of witness in some places has favorably impressed the authorities and perhaps even given a new image of what the Christian is and of what the Christian church is.

DUNCAN: With this kind of a relationship developing, do you think that the Communists might provide even a little more freedom for the Christian?

GOULDING: I think the Communists must now, 50 years after the revolution, be thinking that the Christian church will not be exterminated as easily and as quickly as they once thought, and if this is so, there must be a place for it in their society. Since

the church is recognized as not being anti-social, I think that the Christian will be permitted to follow what we would call their spiritual witness and worship.

DUNCAN: One would assume that there is a real shortage of trained leadership; that is, a shortage of ministers. How do these people get along with ministers?

GOULDING: This problem of a lack of trained leadership is one of their major problems. But, of course, if you cannot have what you want, you must have what you can get. This has revealed some unexpected strength in the Christian community. In a number of countries the churches have had to turn to laymen — men who do a full day's work from dawn to dusk, maybe in the fields or in the factories, and then have the responsibility of quite a large congregation. This is a tremendous responsibility, particularly when we bear in mind that these men have no theological literature to which they can turn. They have to create their sermons and not just read them from other people. God has raised up a generation of dedicated laymen who give their life to Christian preaching and teaching as lay pastors. This does not wholly fill the need and they are conscious of it, but they are doing an outstanding work. In East Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Yugoslavia the Baptists have seminaries.

DUNCAN: How is church attendance? Are the churches filled with people?

GOULDING: This again varies considerably. I have never been to a Baptist church in Russia, whether it was on Sunday or during the week, that it was not overcrowded. In Romania also, there is a shortage of buildings and of space, and there are more people wanting to get in than can get in. In Poland, there are only a few Baptists but they are very evangelical. There is a growing attendance.

DUNCAN: How do you account for the fact that in these countries where the rule of government is Communist, you perhaps have a more vital religion than you do in other countries? Does persecution help make the church stronger?

GOULDING: I think persecution rather acts like a refiner's fire, and it purifies the ore until only the gold remains. Consequently, you have a strong church even if it may or may not be a large one numerically. I believe that in a society where the thing you stand for is attacked, you are bound to give serious thought to its significance and importance. The point of courageous decision has to be reached quite early in life in these countries. Children in school face the direct teaching of atheism, and the issue is put before them: "Are you a believer or are you not a believer?" In such a test, what you believe becomes of greater value and greater significance. In these countries Christian fellowship is a very rich thing indeed.

DUNCAN: These people in Eastern Europe are aware, I assume, that there are Baptists in over 100 different nations who stand with them as much as Baptists can stand with one

another. Is this a source of strength to them?

GOULDING: I believe it is. Let's



Dr. Harold G. Basden

Dr. Harold G. Basden —

(Continued from page 1)

headquarters personnel to speak at various Baptist gatherings; worked with the Southern Baptist world mission conferences (former schools of missions); developed and utilized the Board's promotional literature; and arranged for Foreign Mission Board exhibits at Southern Baptist Convention, state, and associational meetings and assemblies.

Survivors include his widow, the former Marjorie Lynn Abbott, of

look at it from a very realistic standpoint. In Europe all of the Baptist people are minority groups. Consequently, the authorities have not heard of Baptists save as a remote sect in their own country. This is particularly true in countries with a strong state church. Baptists are regarded as a sect or a separatist group and therefore, they should come under the law. The authorities are inclined to say, "Let's do away with this little hole-in-the-corner crowd." Yet, suddenly there comes the realization that this is not a tiny group of awkward people, but members of a greatly respected international Christian family. We in the Baptist World Alliance go as representatives of the large family and say to other churches, to place of personal visit to people who are otherwise isolated. Our problem in the Alliance is that we could do so much more if we didn't have to sit down and say "I am sorry, our budget doesn't permit us to go there."

Van Winkle Chapel Dedication June 1

Sunday, June 1, the Van Winkle Chapel, Jackson, will dedicate a new building. Regular worship services will be held at 11 a.m. with dinner served on the church grounds. Members from the mother church will attend their own church Sunday morning and then join with the chapel for the noonday meal. The dedication service will begin at 1:30.

Etowah, Tenn.; two children, Peggy 15, and Paul 13; two brothers; Rev. James Basden, Grand Prairie, Tex., and Rev. Merle T. Basden, Fort Worth, Tex.; and a sister, Mrs. Paul D. Bragg, Carthage, Miss.

Senior Citizens Observance

By H. J. Massie, Assistant Director Mississippi Council on Aging

One of the fastest growing segments of our society is that group known as "Senior Citizens." Many of these are members of the Baptist Church. In 1960, according to the census, there were more than 100,000 people in Mississippi who were 65 years of age or above. It is estimated that this number in 1980 is well above 210,000. Who are these people? They are our grandparents, our uncles and aunts, and maybe our parents. In a few short years, we, ourselves, will be in that number. For 12 years the nation has been observing Senior Citizens Month during May. In 1960 Mississippi joined the ranks.

On March 17, 1969, President Richard Nixon signed the annual proclamation designating May, 1969 as Senior Citizens Month. The theme this year is "THE CHALLENGE OF THE LATER YEARS."

Members of the Baptist church can and should engage in many activities relating to older people and their interests during the month of May. In fact, this can be done throughout the year. Some of these activities may include:

1. Visit shut-ins. Carry them, a gift or a nourishing meal.
2. Carry an older person to a church service. Many of them do not have a car or do not drive.
3. Teach children at home and in Bible classes to respect and be kind to older people (Lev. 19:32).
4. Write letters or send religious cards to older persons. It will give them a thrill to hear from you.
5. Invite a senior citizen to your home for a visit — maybe for a meal.
6. Start a "telephone service" by calling an older person each day. This person, in turn, can be asked to call someone else.
7. Form a transportation committee to carry older people to Bible school, to the grocery store, and to club meetings.
8. Older people can be carried for a drive in the country. They will love it.
9. Start a senior citizens club. It can be called Golden Age Club, Happy Hour Club, Fun After Fifty, DMA (Don't Mention Age Club), or some other.
10. Locate the "lost people" of the older generation who may be poorly housed, under-nourished and lonely. Make life worth living for them.



First Church, Belzoni, Breaks Ground For New Sanctuary

Ground-breaking ceremonies for a new sanctuary were held at First Church, Belzoni, April 27. The \$310,000 colonial type structure will seat 406 people downstairs, 186 in the balcony, and the choir loft will have 38 permanent seats. The second floor will house recreational facilities for young people.

The contractor, J. L. Perry of Central Construction Company, Philadel-

phia, has asked for 400 calendar days for the construction of this building that is erected for one purpose only: the worship of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ and the fulfillment of His words, "My House shall be called the House of Prayer."

Pictured above are members of the Building and Planning Committee (holding golden shovels), the contractor, the engineer, and the architect.

From left, Buck Jones, the contractor, Mr. Perry; Hugh Varnado; S. N. Brown; P. B. Simpson; Mrs. Spencer Barret; Boyce Biggers, the engineer; Mrs. W. J. Lea; Terry Campbell, Chairman; Earl T. Gilmore, the architect; and the pastor, Rev. Jasper P. Neel, Jr. Members of the Building and Planning Committee not shown are Mrs. Homer Alexander and G. B. Mortimer.



NEWEST BOOKS

We Recommend Dr. Criswell's Books

Dr. W. A. Criswell is president of the Southern Baptist Convention, and pastor of the largest Baptist church in the Southern Baptist Convention, and one of the largest in the world, the First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas. He will be presiding at the coming Southern Baptist Convention sessions in New Orleans.

Since Dr. Criswell is one of our greatest scholars and preachers, and also is a prolific writer, we should like to commend to you some of his books, which you may want to purchase in New Orleans, or, if you cannot go, may wish to order from your Baptist Book Store for your summer reading.

Several weeks ago we reviewed and recommended Dr. Criswell's latest book, *Why I Breach That the Bible is Literally True*. (Broadman, \$3.95) We have just reread much of this book and should like to again commend it to you. This is must reading for all who wish to understand why most Southern Baptists, and masses of other Christians, accept the Bible as the inspired Word of God.

Another very fine volume on the Bible is *The Bible For Today's World* (Zondervan, \$2.50) which Dr. Criswell wrote several years ago. The book shows how the Bible is the one book most needed by modern man.

If you wish to learn more about the Holy Spirit you should read *The Holy Spirit For Today's World* (Zondervan, \$2.95). Here you will find some of the clearest expositions on the person and work of the Holy Spirit to be found anywhere. Dr. Criswell deals frankly and thoroughly with such issues as baptism of the Spirit, spiritual infilling, divine healing, speaking with tongues, etc.

Still another value which will be of special value is *Did Man Just Happen?* (Zondervan, paper \$1.00, cloth, \$1.50). In a day when evolution is the "accepted" position in so many areas, Criswell examines the theory, carefully, and shows its many flaws and weaknesses.

One of the best commentaries on Revelation that we have read is *Expository Sermons on Revelation*. This was issued several years ago in five volumes, but Zondervan has just issued it in one volume. I believe the price is \$9.95. This will be a worth while investment, for never have we seen so much study and research put into one series. Criswell will open the book of Revelation so that it becomes a new book to you.

The first volume of a new series on the book of Daniel called *Expository Sermons on the Book of Daniel* (Zondervan) has created much interest. In this volume the author examines the critics of the book of Daniel, and shows why it must be accepted as true. After reading this volume, the reader eagerly will await the remaining books in the series.

These are just a few of the books from the great heart and mind of our convention president. Almost all of Dr. Criswell's books are comprised of sermons preached first in his own pulpit in Dallas. Through the printed page he blesses people everywhere with the same ministry which he brings to the great congregations who hear him Sunday by Sunday in Dallas.

GUIDE TO SURVIVAL by Salem Kirban (Tyndale House, 275 pp., paper). The subtitle is "How The World Will End."

The book not only appears in this bookstore edition from Tyndale, but also is being sold directly by the author through large advertisements appearing in a number of religious publications. The author's thesis is the Second Coming of Christ, and that is presented from the pre-millennial point of interpretation, and in a rather sensational manner. Even the cover reflects this, but the author is dealing with a subject about which he feels people need to be excited and concerned. The first half of the book discusses signs which seem to point to the coming of Christ in the very near future, and the remainder of the book deals with events connected with the coming. The Rapture (Christ's return in the air for his saints), the Tribulation period, the Antichrist and False Prophet, the Jew, the events of the final days of the earth's history, the final triumph of Christ, etc., all are presented. The author does not present very much that is new to those who are familiar with the pre-millennial point of view, but he does present it in a concise, dramatic, scripture based manner, and his message that men must be born again to be ready for the return of Christ is very clear. Those rejecting the pre-millennial point of view will not approve of this book, but will find some interesting things in it. Those unfamiliar with this interpretation will find much to arouse their interest here.

berant ingredient has been diluted or has disappeared altogether," he added.

According to a statistical table titled "Actions of Drivers Associated With Deaths," Speed too fast for conditions accounted for more than 40 per cent of the deaths; On wrong side of road, 14 per cent; "Reckless driving," 14 per cent; "Drove off roadway," 12 per cent; "Did not have right of way," 13 per cent.

In the ten year period from 1959 through 1968, young driver involvement in fatal accidents increased

CLARKE'S BIBLE CONCORDANCE edited by Adam Clarke (Kregel, 284 pp., \$3.95)

This inexpensive, easy-to-use, and highly practical aid to all the keywords of the Bible is alphabetically arranged for easy reference. In addition to the concordance, there is a guide to natural history of Bible animals, a dictionary of definitions to proper names, theological terms, etc., a Bible picture gallery with numerous engravings, and a Greek and Hebrew grammar guide.

LET'S USE FORMS AND LETTERS by Jack Hyles (Sword of the Lord Publishers, \$3.00, 116 pp.)

A collection of the forms and letters used in the ministry of First Baptist Church, Hammond, Indiana. Here the reader will find the kind of letters used, the records, the promotion, advertising, and business forms used by a great soul-winning church that runs 2,100 to 2,400 weekly in Sunday school and baptizes over 1,000 converts in a year's time.

DAILY READINGS, from the works of Leslie D. Weatherhead, selected by Frank Cumbers (Abingdon, 367 pp., \$3.50)

Quotations from the extensive works of Leslie D. Weatherhead comprise this series of daily readings. Some of the books he wrote are now out of print, and this volume makes selected writings available again in convenient form.

more than 20 percent. Last year, precisely one-third of people at the wheel when accidental death occurred in car crashes were 25 years or younger. The implication of immaturity expressed by speed is inescapable, said The Travelers spokesman, "under-25 drivers amount to only one-fifth of the driver total but they are in the terrible middle of one-third of all fatal auto crashes."

The 1968 traffic death toll was 3,000 more than were killed in 1967. Injuries in 1968 rose to 4,400,000 from 4,200,000 in 1967.



Quiet Talks ON RELIGION IN LIFE

CHESTER E. SWOR

"Our Brave, Wonderful Youngsters"

In the November, 1965, issue of *Christian Herald*, Mr. Blake Clark had a stirring article with the title used at the head of this column. He pointed out that, though almost all of us are familiar with the President's Committee on Juvenile Delinquency and Youth Crime, not many of us are familiar with the Justice Department's Committee on the Young American Medal for Bravery—a committee which chooses annually two young people under 18 years of age who have performed acts of inspiring heroism during the year in saving someone's life. Mr. Clark's article is filled with inspiring true-life episodes of truly brave, wonderful young people!

In Your Town, Too

From the oft-secret and unheralded nature of their heroism, you may not know of some brave, wonderful young people in your community; but I can assure you from walking and talking with teenagers all over America and from hearing their stories that some of the gallant ones are there in your town, too.

Three of the most charming girls I have ever met came into the conference room of a large high school. They were well-groomed, gracious in manner, modest in spirit; but, because they were not willing to be cheap in dating relationships in a school notorious for its looseness of student behavior on dates, they were suffering two hard-to-bear injustices: boys who had been denied familiarities with them on dates had spread the news that these girls were "cold" and, therefore, not enjoyable on dates; they were, as a result of this report, not having the dating opportunities

which their normal hearts desired. BUT THEY WERE ABOUT TO RUN UP THEIR FLAG OF RESISTER TO CHEAPNESS, DESPITE THEIR LONELY, HURT HEARTS. I wanted to pin a medal on them then and there!

More Heroes

An 18-year-old senior boy came to me for counsel, because he had become the last hope of saving an older sister from ruining her life with indulgence, dissipation, and despair from the loss of her husband. He was just 18, normally, you would think, seeking counsel and strength for himself, but standing tall in his resolution to save the life of an older one.

A senior girl, standing in the shambles of a divorce-broken home, mother distraught, father dissolute, brothers running wild, came to me—not to cry on my shoulder, but to seek additional counsel on how she could restore the family. . . . A fifteen-year-old boy whose mother had died was keeping house and preparing meals for his bed-bound father in addition to keeping up at school and inspiring everybody with his radiance. . . . And there are many teenagers who accept rejection, ridicule, and injustice without complaining: like heroes who have suffered through the centuries, they will not betray their honor!

PAUSE WITH ME TO THANK GOD THAT IN YOUR COMMUNITY AND MINE THERE ARE MORE BRAVE, WONDERFUL TEEN-AGERS THAN WE HAD REALIZED!

(Published by special arrangement with Dr. Swor, 902 Whitworth St., Jackson, Miss.)

I THE BAPTIST FORUM I

Know Any Students Going To Utah? Idaho?

We are interested in performing a ministry to college students who come to Utah or Idaho for their education. Therefore, we are seeking the names and addresses of students who may come to our good state. If you know of any, would you please make their names and addresses available to us. We will direct them to the proper student directors once they have been given us.

Jimmy Coleman
Joe H. Music
University Baptist Church
334 South 13th East
Salt Lake City, Utah 84102

Discusses Social Action, Baptist Private Schools

Dear Sir:

I read your editorial in the Record today on social action. I wish you would let that suffice. I disagree with your statement that the foremost issue facing Southern Baptists as they come to their 1969 convention is social action.

Enclosed is today's syndicated column, "Dr. Crane's Clinic" in the Clarion Ledger which I'm sure is widely read by Mississippi Baptists and which I feel gives a good answer to those in our convention who are head strong and determined, at all costs, to force the issue at the 1969 Southern Baptist Convention. Division will be the ultimate result.

As Dr. Crane, a leading psychologist, brings out, the Achilles tendon of the church is its pocketbook.

He states, and I believe 95% plus of Mississippi Baptist agree that a lot of clergymen and some laymen are far out of contact with reality.

In the city of Jackson the Presbyterian and Episcopal and maybe other churches are sponsoring private schools to give their people a choice but 2 years ago you wrote me that you felt it premature for you to editorialize on the merits of the Baptist church sponsoring private schools to give its people a choice. I'm afraid the Presbyterian and Episcopal lead-

A thousand years ago, most travelers stayed in manors or monasteries. One of the earliest—built in 962, rebuilt in the 17th century, and still in use today—is the home of the famous St. Bernard dog who rescues travelers. Built high in the Alps between Switzerland and Italy, the place provided a warm welcome but not clean bedding.

An English inn of the 16th century advertised, in the spelling of the times: "SUMPTUOUS INNE. . . . VERIE WELL FURNISHED WITH NAPERIE (linens). . . . EACH COMER SURE TO LIE IN CLEAN SHEETS WHEREIN NO MAN HATH BEEN LODGED SINCE THEY CAME FROM THE LAUNDRESSE."

ership is more practical minded and not all wired up with fuzzy minded "social action" as its deepest concern.

Sincerely,
Donald Nunnery
R. 1
Liberty, Miss.

(If you will attend the N. O. Convention I predict that you will find that Social Action will be the foremost issue. Also I suggest you reread my editorial for I do not think you understood my position. As to private schools, there is a whole lot of difference between a few private elementary schools, and a real school system. My position is that we work to save our public schools rather than try to raise the vast sums necessary to build private schools everywhere. Of course, the day may come when we have to do that, but I am not convinced that the time is yet here.—Ed.)

Calendar Of Prayer

(This list is not compiled according to birthdays.)

May 26 — Albert Brady, Clarke College staff; Tommy Baddley, Baptist student director, East Mississippi Junior College.

May 27 — Maxine Sullivan, faculty, Gilroy School of Nursing; Howard Spell, dean, Mississippi College.

May 28 — Bessie Herrington, staff, Children's Village; R. A. Herrington, supt. of missions, Winston Association.

May 29 — Alvin R. Smith, supt. of missions, Zion Association; Mrs. Marjorie Rowden, director of public relations, Wm. Carey College.

May 30 — Marjean Patterson, Mrs. Daphne Pridden, Mrs. Joy Woodall, Mrs. JoAnn Redding, Baptist Building employees.

May 31 — Mrs. J. R. Burney, faculty, Blue Mountain College; Hilda Jane Ables, Baptist Book Store.

June 1 — Louis Burghad, Ministerial Education Board; C. J. Kees, trustee, Baptist Foundation.

The Baptist Record

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Joe Abrams Associate Editor
Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate
William H. Sellers, Bus. Manager

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Issues At New Orleans — III

Miscellaneous Issues

In the preceding two articles on "Issues at New Orleans" we have discussed two matters which will come in for major discussion at the forthcoming Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans, namely social action and the new program for the 70's. In this final article we give attention to several matters which will come before the messengers, but which are not likely to create wide discussion or controversy.

Missions

As always, missions will be given major emphasis, with foreign missions overshadowing all other mission work. This year Foreign Mission Night has been moved from Wednesday to Thursday evening, but no session of the convention will attract more attention, or draw larger attendance. As the FMB approaches a force of 2500 missionaries under appointment, and leads all other denominations and mission agencies in the number of active missionaries, Southern Baptists continue to give their greatest interest, and the largest part of their budget, to this phase of their work. At New Orleans they will consider the need for even more missionaries, and hear of the doors which are open around the world. They will receive reports from many fields, will listen to some of the new appointees, and will dedicate a large number of new missionaries now ready to go to their assignments. At the same time they will rededicate themselves to greater obedience to the commission of Christ.

Home Missions also will be given much consideration, with the emphasis this year evidently being given to the vast need for new mission witness in the decaying inner cities of the nation.

Convention Budget

The convention will adopt the largest budget of its history, as the messengers attempt to lead a division, which we doubt they would attempt, if it would be little more than a splintering off of a small, insignificant group. Liberalism may cause serious trouble for Southern Baptists in coming years, but it will not be a major issue at this meeting.

Evangelism

As always, evangelism will have a strong emphasis. Nothing is dearer to the hearts of Southern Baptists, and this year, the president, Dr. Criswell, has asked the Home Mission Board to lead in a great evangelistic emphasis on Friday afternoon and evening. One of the most successful pastor — evangelists in the convention, Dr. John Bisagno of Del City (Oklahoma City) Oklahoma, will be the Friday evening, evangelistic service preacher, and efforts are under way to bring large numbers of young people from all of the New Orleans area to the meeting.

This then, presents our thinking concerning what will happen at New Orleans. Of course, one never can tell what may come up, or what might become the major issue of the convention. A anything can happen at a Southern Baptist Convention, and often it does. However, it always is a great meeting, great in its spirit, its fellowship, its forward thrust, and in its dedication to the will of God. We expect this convention to be just that.

Guest Editorial

Alcoholocaust

(From The Traveler's Insurance Companies)

1968 was an ugly year for Americans. Tragedy of spectacular magnitude became a frequent front page occurrence. But a quieter national calamity took its dreadful toll on all the days before, during and after the Tet offensive in Vietnam, the riots, the assassinations.

It was "quiet" only because it was not concentrated in a single place at a single time. There was no focus to put this misery on the front pages. To the families and friends of 55,300 men, women and children killed in auto accidents, however, it was the ultimate calamity. To the 4,400,000 victims of injury, it was hard core agony. The economic loss, about 13.5 billion dollars, was an appalling waste.

This view of 1968 is contained in the annual booklet of highway accident statistics from The Travelers Insurance Companies. Statistics in the book-

let were compiled from records of motor vehicle departments throughout the country.

The booklet, titled ALCOHOLOCAUST, points to a study by the U.S. Department of Transportation which concludes that "the use of alcohol by drivers and pedestrians leads to some 25,000 deaths and a total of at least 800,000 crashes in the United States each year." It notes, however, that the reader must read between the lines of classifications in the statistical tables: "Speed too fast for conditions," "On wrong side of road," "Reckless driving," "Drove off roadway," "Did not have right of way," to find the evidence of drinking and driving.

"A dead driver can't be asked to heel-and-toe or take a breath or blood test," a spokesman said. "The injured driver frequently needs swift emergency treatment. Technical examination for alcohol in his blood stream must come later when the a-

Today's Youth

Cumberland Students Witness On The Beaches At Biloxi

By Elwyn N. Wilkinson Jr.
Director of Religious Activities
Cumberland College,
Williamsburg, Ky.

WILLIAMSBURG, KY. (CCNB) — On April 2, 1969 forty students from Cumberland College embarked on an evangelistic tour to the beaches of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. We traveled in an old Air Force bus and two cars.

Most of us had fears and reservations about the trip. Very few of us had ever witnessed to others personally or shared with others what Jesus Christ means to us.

As we reached the beaches, our fears became greater. How would we be received? Would the people think we were "square" or a religious "fanatic"? Would they listen to what we had to say? What lasting results could possibly come from such a ministry?

Our plans were simple. We would mix with the crowd on the beach by swimming and playing volleyball. Later we would gather together and sing some popular songs. Then we would switch to religious songs and have personal testimonies concerning our relationship with Jesus Christ. Finally, we would witness personally to those who stayed.

We came to the beach at Biloxi, Miss., about 11 A.M. on April 4. The crowds were there — hippies, drunks, pleasure seekers — thousands of students from Wisconsin, Michigan, California, Louisiana, Alabama, and other places. Men in the Air Force — a Navy from near-by bases were there. Many high school students were there.

We began as we had planned. As we gathered together, about 125-150 students joined with us. They brought their guitars and sang with us. They carried their coolers of beer with them. Many were drinking. Others were on LSD or some similar drug. We were all nervous — especially when we began to sing religious songs. But they all stayed — and they listened as we told them of Jesus Christ.

We had looked for everyone to leave as we gave testimonies. Our faith was small! For, rather than leaving, they began to ask questions. What does it mean to be saved? How do you know there is a God? Who is this Jesus Christ? We witnessed on the beach until 7:30 that evening, and 90% of these students stayed.

Saturday it rained all day. We were discouraged. That afternoon, however, our faith was renewed as several young people from the beach came to the camp where we were staying. This camp was twenty miles away. They wanted to hear more about Jesus Christ.

Sunday, after our program in one of the local churches, we came back to the beach. The weather was beautiful! Thousands of young people thronged the beach. 350-375 students joined us as we sang. Most of them stayed until we left about 5 P.M. They were interested in what we had to say. One Moslem boy was won to Christ! God richly blessed us!

Our own students grew more than anyone could imagine. Every student witnessed personally to at least six young people. Some had never witnessed before. One girl exclaimed: "The more you witness, the easier it gets." Some who had said: "I can't", on Friday, were doing most of the witnessing later. We witnessed personally to

512 students on the beach. We passed out 4,000 tracts and scripture portions. In addition, we sang in eight churches and one college as we traveled. There were 50 rededications, 5 surrendered to full time Christian service, and 2 professions of faith in these services.

As we left to return home, several students came to say goodbye and to thank us for sharing Christ with them. There was sadness in our hearts because we knew there were thousands of others we did not get a chance to talk with. Yet we were happy we could share Christ with some of them. The decisions which were made helped us to see that people everywhere are still longing for a fellowship with God. They will respond when we show them we care. They are hungry for the "Good News" of Jesus Christ. As Christians we must go where the people are and tell them.



Senior Meets Senator

William Carey College student government president David DeBord (right) is shown above shaking hands with Senator Mark Hatfield of Oregon, at the recent SUSGA (Southern Universities Student Government Associations) Convention held in Louisville, Ky. Senator Hatfield was the keynote speaker.

Foreign Board Approves Four Medical Receptors

Four students completing their third year of medical training were approved April 10 by the Foreign Mission Board for receptorships in Baptist medical installations overseas. They will give eight to 10 weeks of this summer helping missionary doctors and dentists.

The students approved are James L. Brock, of Valley Mills, Tex., for the hospital in Jibla, Yemen; William L. Fesler, of Elgin, Okla., for the hospital in Eku, Nigeria; Darrell

Mississippi College Students Named To Social Training Posts

Three Mississippi College sociology majors have been appointed for social work training positions in the Mississippi Department of Public Welfare, Dr. N. W. Carpenter, chairman of the Division of Social Studies at the college, has revealed.

Arthur Winstead, Commissioner of Public Welfare, said the appointments in the Student Associate Summer Training Program went to Bonnie Marie Wilks of Delhi, La., Margaret Susan Chatham of Tutwiler, and Susan Gail Reynolds of New Orleans, La. All are juniors at Mississippi College.

According to Commissioner Winstead, the program is geared for college students who are ready to enter their senior year and who wish to explore the field of social work as a profession.

The student appointments are under the Merit System plan for personnel of the Mississippi Department of Public Welfare. Selections are made through personal interviews, college grades, and individual potentiality in the profession of social work.

Greg Berry Is Winner Hederman Scholarship

Gregory Leo Berry of Jackson has been named the recipient of the T. M. Hederman III Memorial Scholarship at Mississippi College for the coming year, Dr. Charles Scott, dean of students and chairman of the Financial Aids Committee, has announced.

Young Berry, son of Mr. and Mrs. V. L. Berry of 105 Elms Court Circle, Jackson, was selected as the winner of the \$1,000 Hederman scholarship on the basis of his academic and extracurricular record at Wingfield High School in Jackson. The scholarship is renewable from year - to - year for up to four years. It is awarded to an incoming student who has maintained excellent academic, leadership and activity records in high school.

In addition to the Hederman Scholarship, Berry is also the recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship award from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. This places him among the top one per cent of the students scholastically in the nation.

A member of the Alta Woods Baptist Church, Berry serves on the church's Youth Council and works as a counselor at a church camp for Indian boys.

L. Griffin, of Farmington, Mo., for the hospital in Bangkok, Thailand; and Raymond L. Meade, of Richmond, Va., a dental student, for the dental clinic in Ibadan, Nigeria.

Ridgecrest Student Conference Features To Focus On Belief

NASHVILLE — "We Do Believe, But..." is the theme for the 1969 student conference at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly.

Sponsored by the student department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, the conference will be held June 5-11.

Stanley Nelson, associate, personnel department, Foreign Mission Board, will deliver the keynote address at the Thursday evening session.

Other conference leaders are: Charles

Longino, professor of philosophy, University of Virginia, Charlottesville; Eric Rust, professor of Christian philosophy, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; L. D. Johnson, chaplain, Furman University, Greenville, S. C.; Cecil Sherman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Asheville, N. C.; Sen Carroll Hubbard, state senator of Kentucky, and Charles Roselle, secretary of the Board's student department.

Interested persons may write Ken McAnear, manager, Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly, Ridgecrest, N. C. 28770, for reservations.

A similar student conference will be held at Glorieta Baptist Assembly, Glorieta, N. M., Aug. 21-27. Those interested in this student week may contact Mark Short, manager, Glorieta Baptist Assembly, Glorieta, N. M. 87535.

MY TESTIMONY

Conversion is a wonderful, thrilling experience. Salvation is a gift of God that we cannot really understand completely, but through it the great love of God for mankind is revealed.

My conversion is a wonderful and thrilling experience. I live it each day. Through my salvation, I see what a gift of love God has given us, His only Son.

Before my conversion experience I was depressed, unhappy, with no purpose for my life. I had nothing to look forward to. I was an utter stranger to God. I was totally blind, spiritually. I knew I could not stay in this gutter; I was torn between yes and no.

Then I turned to Jesus when there was no one else. What a friend I found in Him! I repented, believed on the name of Christ. Jesus overcame Satan in my life and He set up His kingdom, the pure.

Now I know the power of God and His Son. What a power on earth could change a life, make a person be born again! Now joy floods my soul; I have purpose for my life. It belongs to Jesus now; He leads me and guides me.

And something to look forward to? Yes, I look forward to future experiences with my Lord. As Paul said, "The old has passed away, behold, the new hath come!" I know God better, and the peace I have with God passes all understanding. We walk and talk together; such joy I have never known. I know Him as a God of wonderful surprises. One who will sustain me when winds of trouble blow in my life. I am ever seeking to learn more about God, the Trinity.

How wonderful it is to know my sins are forgiven, that I have overstepped life, and that nothing can match me away from the Hands of the Father.

Now I think, how can anyone live, face life as hard and unfriendly as it can be without God? My advice to a lost person would be, take Christ as your Lord and Saviour. Go to Him and He will not turn you away. The Life, the Truth, the Way are Jesus! Take Him and know you are safe in His Hands. He is the Son of God, the Saviour of the world. I am ever seeking to learn more about God, the Trinity.



THESE early birds have already been to the lake and captured several small fish for observation.

Pike County Association's Royal Ambassador Retreat



THIS group, most of the 114 boys attending the retreat, is making preparation for the mission emphasis.

Leadership: Ed Fitzgerald, North McComb Church, McComb, — Associational Brotherhood Director; and Monroe Beckham, First Church, Magnolia, — Associational Royal Ambassador Leader.

Present: 114 boys and 12 leaders.

Program: Friday Night: (May 2) Wiener roast; campfire service; Saturday: (May 3) Mission Emphasis; Royal Ambassador Organization Presentation; Campcraft Presentation; Nature Study; Hike.



THESE served as the leadership for the retreat—counselors, instructors and directors. Front row, left to right: Edward Magee, Monroe Beckham, Danny Hood, Paul Seal, and Farrell Holloman. Second row, left to right: C. M. Wilson, Donald Carlisle, Charles Wilson, Earl Sandifer, Donald May, Ed Fitzgerald, and Jimmy McGee.



A PERIOD of free time allows the boys to discover the wonders of nature and to gain a greater awareness of God.



LEADERSHIP is the "key" to an effective Royal Ambassador ministry. Left to right: a minister of education—Earl Sandifer; a Royal Ambassador leader—Monroe Beckham; and a pastor—Rev. Jimmy McGee. They talk over the effectiveness of the Royal Ambassador program and the meaningful experiences provided by the retreat.

USM Plans Church, Campus Workshop

The First Annual Church and Campus Workshop at the University of Southern Mississippi is scheduled for June 28. The event will be from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 in the University Union Building on campus.

The conclave is open to all denominations and faiths. It will embrace pastors and other lay and ordained persons in the churches who work with youths of college and high school age.

According to Rev. Graham L. Hales, USM Chaplain, the program will include talks by denominational campus ministers at USM, faculty of the Department of Religion and Philosophy and other members of the University.

Subjects to be discussed during the workshop will include the academic and psychological world of the student; changing patterns of the campus ministry; preparing high schoolers for the college experience; and churches meeting the needs of today's student.

Registration for the workshop will be \$2.50. Reservations can be made by writing to the Office of the Chaplain, Box 118, Southern Station, Hattiesburg, Miss., 39401.

Camp Triangle Opens June 1 At Judson

June 1 is opening date for Camp Triangle, now in its eighth year at Judson College, Alabama Baptists college for women, in Marion Alabama.

Several trips are planned this summer for girl explorers, according to Mrs. Mary Lou Kent, who returns as director for 1969.

Plans for June also include special emphasis on crafts, along with horseback riding, swimming, land sports, music and drama. Private lessons in voice, art, and piano are available on request.

Camp sessions for girls 9 to 16 will begin each of the first four Sundays in June. Campers may attend for one or more weeks, with a ten per cent discount for sisters.

The college - sponsored camp held each year with headquarters on the Judson campus, is approved by the American Camping Association. For more information write the Director, Camp Triangle, Judson College, Marion, Ala., 36756.

Clergyman Answers Youth

Rev. Maurice Clayton, pastor of Hillcrest Church, Jackson, led Holmes Junior College's youth night at Main Street Church's recent revival, in Goodman.

"Youth are honest about life and want to know the truth," Rev. Clayton said.

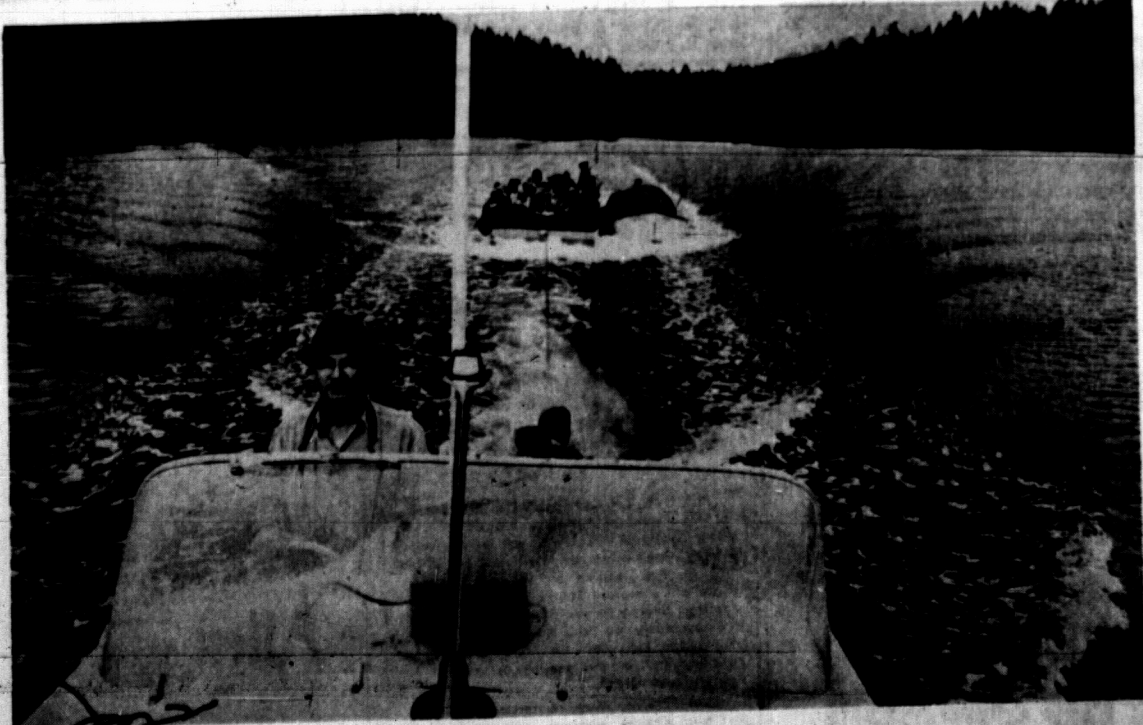
"The best way to spread Christianity on the college campus is by being a living testimony and personally confronting each student, rather than speaking to large groups," he added.

The greatest problems facing today's students is pressure of so-called "pseudo - intellectuals" according to Mr. Clayton. The answer is to have a personal knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ and an unwavering trust in the Bible.

In his Youth Night message Mr. Clayton contrasted Satan's Banquet Hall with Christ's Banquet Hall.

"Satan promises pleasure, fame, popularity — anything you desire. He serves these things first," Clayton says, "but after each drink it becomes more bitter. Finally he serves upon one shame and disgrace."

"The Lord warned that serving Him would be bitter at first — until you drink the drink of self-denial. After this every day with Jesus is sweeter than the day before, ultimately bringing eternal life with God."



Bouncing Along On A Barge

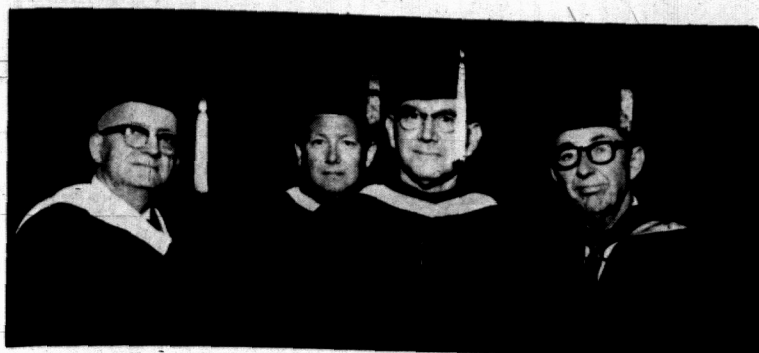
KETCHIKAN, Alaska—Going to camp is a special treat for youngsters, but in Alaska getting there can be half the fun. The children going to Orton Ranch, a camp founded by Marion Dunham, pastor of the

First Baptist church in Ketchikan, are treated to a two-hour voyage on a barge bouncing in the wake of Dunham's boat. —(RNS Photo)



Friendships Grow At Camp Crestridge

NASHVILLE — Lasting friendships and growth toward Christian maturity are benefits received from Camp Crestridge for girls, ages 9-17. Camp Crestridge is located in the Blue Ridge Mountains, eighteen miles from Asheville, N.C.—BSSB PHOTO



Ouachita Dean Receives Doctorate

FORT WORTH — James G. Haggard of Louisville, Miss., received the doctor of education degree at Southwestern Seminary during spring commencement exercises May 9 with Dr. Haggard (second from right) are, left to right, Joe Davis Heacock, dean of the School of Religious Education; Leon Marsh, chairman of the graduate committee, and seminary president Robert E. Naylor. Dr. Haggard, a graduate of Mississippi College, and former pastor at Ocean Springs, is currently the dean of students at Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia.

Blue Mountain Announces Annual Workshop For Elementary Teachers

Blue Mountain College has announced plans for its thirteenth annual North Mississippi Elementary Teachers Workshop, to be directed by Mrs. J. R. Lewis, head of the Department of Education at the college.

On Monday, June 18, at 11:00 a.m. in Garrett Auditorium, Miss Ernestine Crisler, educational consultant for Scott, Foresman and Company, will present "Practical Procedures for Spelling and Handwriting."

On Tuesday, June 17, at 11:00 a.m., in Garrett Auditorium, Mrs. Juliet Borden, Director of the Follow Through Demonstration Center at Tupelo, will present, "Why Reappraise Skills?"

On Wednesday, June 18, at 11:00 a.m., in Garrett Auditorium, Mrs. Elaine Bruner, Arthur, representing The Distar Reading Program, and a reading Specialist at the University of Illinois, will present, "An Approach to Reading for the Disadvantaged-The Distar Reading Program."

On Thursday, June 19, at 11:00 a.m., in Garrett Auditorium, Mrs. Juliet Borden, will again be on hand to present, "How Behavior Modification Relates to Reading."

On Friday, June 20, at 11:00 a.m., in Garrett Auditorium, there will be a panel discussion and dialogue on "Recent Trends in Reading, Writing, and Spelling."



LEFT TO RIGHT: Jack Byars, assistant superintendent; Tom Cook, superintendent; J. Q. (Jock) DeMerville, chairman, Penitentiary Board, Okolona; Robert D. Robinson, Board Member, Jackson; H. L. Roberts, Sr., Board Member, Shelby; Turner Arant, Vice Chairman, Blaine. (Sebe Dale, Jr., Board Member, Columbia, is absent.)



SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

THE INTERNATIONAL LESSON — LIFE AND WORK CURRICULUM —

People And Places Of The Bible

By Clifton J. Allen
Genesis 13:14-17; Joshua 11;
John 4: 1-30

This lesson bears a close relationship to the preceding one. A clue to understanding the Bible is a knowledge of the people and places of the Bible. Stress may well be put on the fact that God's revelation of himself, about which the Bible tells, took place in the midst of the things of earth. Therefore we need to learn all we can about the geography of the Bible and the customs and manner of life of the people of the Bible.

The Lesson Explained THE LANDS OF THE BIBLE (vv. 3-6)

Jesus was on his way from Judea to Galilee. At Jacob's well, near the village of Sychar, he was on historic ground. The region was a part of Joseph's inheritance from Jacob. Nearby was Shechem, to which Abram came when he first entered the land of Canaan (Gen. 12:6). Also nearby were Mount Ebal and Mount Gerizim. In the valley between them the Israelites met after the conquest, and there the blessings and the curses of the law were declared antipodally from one mountain to the other. Jesus was actually near the center of Palestine. The land was small, not more than one hundred fifty miles in length from Dan to Beersheba and some twenty-five to seventy-five miles in width, depending on a northern or southern point. Sychar was about halfway between Jerusalem and Nazareth. Galilee was to the north. Perea was to the east, across the Jordan. Jesus' entire ministry — practically all — was spent within an area some seventy-five miles long and forty miles wide. But what mighty works of compassion and power and salvation!

Palestine proper was a very small part of the lands of the Bible. Its location was strategic, on the highway between the great nations of Syria, Assyria, and Babylon to the east

and northeast and Egypt to the south. To the northwest and west, in New Testament times, were the nations of Asia Minor, Greece, and Italy, all, along with Palestine, a part of the Roman Empire. The great cities of the Roman world became centers of Christian evangelization.

THE PEOPLE AND THEIR CUSTOMS (vv. 7-10)

Weary with his journey, as he sat at Jacob's well, Jesus spoke to a woman of Samaria. She was taken by surprise. Men did not speak to women in public. A woman had no status. She was the property of her father or her husband. This explains the discrimination against women in regulations and customs often reflected in the Bible. In the next place, this woman was a Samaritan, and Jews had no dealings with Samaritans — and vice versa. Rivalry and hostility developed between the Jews and Samaritans. The compulsion of spiritual compassion led Jesus through Samaria. Normally Jews would have gone from Judea around through Perea, east of Jordan, to get to Galilee. Also, this woman was disreputable. Respectable people in Jesus' time despised the publicans and sinners. Class spirit and race prejudice created barriers and animosities between people.

Jesus Christ saw every individual as a person of infinite worth. With him, children were important, women merited equal status with men, the poor and handicapped were not necessarily the victims of sin, and publicans and sinners needed friendship and could become Christian disciples. To understand the New Testament, we must see all people as having infinite worth in the sight of Christ; we must see all people in need of redemption and the joy of eternal life.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD (vv. 19-26)

Jesus tactfully led this woman of Samaria to the point of seeing herself, of recognizing her sinful life. She sought to evade the issue by asking Jesus a question about worship. The Samaritans declared that Mount Gerizim was the place for worship; the Jews said Jerusalem was the place to worship. Jesus declared that the place was not of primary importance

The Conflict Between The Believer And The World

I John 2:12-29
By Bill Duncan

Some people have thought that becoming a Christian would make everything easy and that all the problems of life would be solved. Many have made their decisions only to be disillusioned and shocked in their faith. Some have even thought they were not saved.

Only if someone had explained this little book of I John. Before conversion life was all downstream, easy going. Then when Christ became the Lord of their lives, the going got rough. There was open conflict between the Believer and the world in which he was living.

The strength that Christ can give will overcome the world. The perils that lay in the path of the Christian are on every hand.

The greatest need that most Christians have is to understand who is responsible for the conflicts, and what approach to expect. Jesus said, "We are to be in the world, but not of the world." This opens up off

minds to want to understand how we can live with the conflict that will always be ours until we escape this world.

The Conflict of the Wicked One

As soon as a person accepts Christ as his Savior, he attracts the attention of the Wicked One. Of course, there was time when the "wicked one" did not bother non-Christians, but all of that has changed.

Guy King says that the devil is a burglar who is certain that there is something worth stealing from the believer. You have so much worth his stealing—a peace, a power, a joy, a reward, a blessing, etc.

The appearance of the wicked one often suggests his approach to lead people into sin—"as a serpent" Gen. 3:1; "as a lion" I Peter 5:8; and "as an angel of light" II Cor. 9:14. Many would think that he is omniscient but he is not, even though the range of his knowledge is unique. He knows our weaknesses and our strength. He knows how to lure with the wrong de-

(Continued on page 8)

At Parchman

Chaplain's Department Receives Station Wagon

JOCK DEMERVILLE, pictured above, passes the keys to a 1968 Concours Estate Chevrolet Station Wagon to Superintendent Tom Cook for use in the Chaplain's Service of the Mississippi State Penitentiary, at Parchman. Through the leadership of Board Member, H. L. Roberts, a group of friends throughout the state contributed generously for the station wagon.

The station wagon will be used primarily for the Inmate Speaking Team to travel to engagements to various

high schools, civic clubs, and other organizations in the state. Coordinated by Chaplain W. D. Kirk, assisted by Chaplain S. F. McManus, a group of inmates relate their life of crime and the sure results, with the purpose of causing all who hear to "Stop—Don't be a Convict."

Chaplain Kirk states that the station wagon is an answer to prayer and will provide the means to a more effective and wider ministry to the inmates and to the people of Mississippi.

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Devotional

Beware Of Being Offended

Matthew 15:12-13
By David W. McCubbin, Associate Pastor, Minister of Education,
First, Meridian

We are admonished to be careful about offending others. God's word in His emphasis on the worth of the individual and on imitating the love of Christ would certainly bid us not deliberately to offend others. But at the same time the way of Christ is never one that tiptoes around, afraid of hurting somebody's feelings.



We need to be reminded occasionally that a Christian should be courteous and should be sensitive to the feelings of others. At the same time, we should be made aware that there is no place for hurt feelings in the Christian life.

Jesus denounced the Pharisees for their perverse ways. His disciples said to him later, "Don't you know you offended the Pharisees?" and Jesus said, "Every plant that my father hath not planted shall be rooted up." He was saying in essence, "They were offended because they do not believe and follow me. They do not belong to me. If they were mine, their feelings would not stay hurt."

Do you know people who are not doing all that they should as professing Christians because of "hurt feelings"?

This is tragic. For anyone to let "hurt feelings" keep him from the exercise of faith is to say that he lacks understanding of the heart of the gospel.

This is not to say that Christians never get their feelings hurt, are never offended. It is to say that a Christian who has found forgiveness at the cross and tasted the joys of fellowship with Christ and his saints cannot be content to let the accidental or even deliberate offense of another keep him from the table of God's delicacies. The dying Saviour said, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." At the cross the believer finds grace to be "big enough" to overlook the offense of others.

If we are claiming offense, we should examine ourselves. It just could be that our excuse that someone hurt our feelings might in reality be God weeding his garden. "Every plant which my heavenly father hath not planted shall be rooted up."



Sunday School Swells At Saltillo

At Saltillo church on a recent Sunday during a special emphasis on Sunday school attendance, there were 258 present, with 307 enrolled in Sunday School. Aubrey Riley is Sunday school superintendent. Rev. David Poe is pastor.



Union (Alcorn) Builds Pastorium

UNION CHURCH (Alcorn Association) has completed a pastor's home. Pictured are the pastor, Building Committee, and trustees of the church. Front row: Rev. Charles Farmer, pastor, D. Crow Jr., Raymond Mattox, Willie Spencer. Back row: Sam Caldwell, Ladron Mattox, O. L. Mattox, Jr. For the first time in the history of the church (organized in 1845), a pastor will be living on the church field and conducting full-time worship services.

S. S. Lesson - - -

(Continued from page 7)

sire of lust. The devil is a strong character, but not stronger or mightier than God. We are no match for him in our strength, so we have to call upon the strength of the Lord to defeat him.

The Conflict with the World

What is of the world that is evil? It cannot be matter, like Gnosticism would teach. It cannot be the world of nature. Although it bears the scars of the fall of man, yet it is beautiful and there is no evidence of it being inherently evil. That which is evil spoken of is all that is within the world that is alienated from God. And it is to this alienation that the devil is the god of this world, II Cor. 4:4, and the prince of this world.—John 14:30.

The harm of the world is that it draws away our love from the Father. Many people have seen no real reason for separation from the world and at the same time have become more involved in it. The result is that the love for God and for God's things are eventually gone.

Since all that is in the world is of the world, we may not love any of it. John selects for emphasis "the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and

the pride of life."

Dodd said these are the essential marks of the pagan way of life. The first describes the desire of our fallen and sinful nature. The second describes the tendency to be captivated by the outward show of things without inquiring into their real values. The third speaks of the vainglory of life; evil desires arising out of the urge for wealth, position, comfort, and power. Ebrard said that it was the desire to shine or outshine others in luxurious living. All of the world will pass away — it is not eternal.

Much of the conflict is from within the Christian and is described as the flesh. The Christian in his new birth became a two-natured being. The flesh is the old nature with which we were born and we will not lose it until we escape this body. This becomes the Christian's most insidious peril.

The Conflict from the Anti-Christ

The church must always be on guard that the fellowship not be attacked by those who have departed, disclosing their true nature to work their evil work upon the church from outside. The presence of many defectors points out the one outstanding evil anti-Christ who shall come at the close of the age. The anti-Christ describes one who assumes the guise of Christ but opposes Christ. He assails to preserve, but denies Him.

The method of these opposers of Christ is by charming manners, en-

Missions Gifts Are Living Memorials To 'Little Jim'

By Emma Hudspeth
Ashland, Miss.

Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26, 1964, was a great day for Mr. and Mrs. Felin Bowlin and son, Bill, of Hickory Flat, Mississippi. Another little boy had come into their home and into their lives. This little boy they named Jimmie, but called Jim. The great event took place at the North Mississippi Medical Center, Tupelo.

The mother, in speaking of the birth, remarked, "Such a perfect time for such a perfect baby to be born into our world. Only God knew how much we wanted this little one. We had prayed for sometime for another child. Bill, our nine-year-old son, had prayed, too. He was more definite in his prayer. He prayed for a baby brother. We were all very happy when he came, parents, grandparents, Bill, neighbors, and friends. In fact, our little town rejoiced with us."

Jim lived only four years, but he lived a full life in those four years. He loved everyone and everyone loved him. He loved the church, was always ready to go there. Especially did he love his Sunday school and his teachers. He brought life to all the activities in which he took part.

Jim loved the beauty of the earth—God's world. He thrilled over the sunsets, the beautiful trees, the floating clouds; the swimming of the ducks on Mr. Todd's pond. A common expression of his when something appealed to him was, "Mommy, let's paint it so we look at it every day."

One day Jim's activities ceased. He entered the hospital a very very sick little boy. Nothing could be done; he passed away December 25, 1968, leaving behind a heart-broken family and a town grieving with them.

Jim's death came during the season of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions, and the season of prayers for the offering.

Flowers began coming into the home in memory of a beloved little boy and his family. Then was sent out from the father and mother and Bill this request: "In place of more flowers, give to the Lottie Moon Christmas fund in Jim's memory." The request was heard and heeded; money began coming into the WMU as a memorial to Little Jim.

The goal of the church was \$600. In answer to the request of the family, the amount soon reached \$1440.22, the greater part of which was in memory of Jim.

There were other gifts in his mem-

ory — the heart fund, the cancer fund, Baptist Children's Village, Jackson, St. Jude Hospital, Memphis, and possibly others.

Through this experience, the spirit of giving took fire in the Hickory Flat Baptist Church to such a degree that in March, when the Annie Armstrong Easter Season for Home Missions was scheduled, the church exceeded its goal by \$145.

The gifts in memory of Little Jim are living memorials to a short life. Though dead, he speaks through them. More people will hear the story of Jesus; more children will be cared for and treated; more research will be made in the heart and cancer fields; more people will be drawn closer to the Lord because Little Jim Bowlin lived.

Tribute To Mrs. Sophia Fortenberry

Members of Silver Creek Women's Missionary Union, Pike Association, have prepared a memorial tribute to Mrs. Sophie Estess Fortenberry, acknowledging her "love and faithfulness to her Lord, her church, and to her W.M.S."

"Her words were always kind, her smile always ready, her hands always willing, her friendship always extended. Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies."

Revival Results

First Church, Southaven: April 6-13; Rev. Don R. Cooper, pastor, evangelist; Terry Westbrook, song leader; eight professions of faith; three others for baptism; seven by letter; 14 rededications.

First, Guntersville, Alabama: Dr. Bob N. Ramsay, pastor, First, Brookhaven, evangelist; 13 professions of faith; 3 by letter; 42 young people rededicated their lives to Christ; H. Kendall Smith, minister of music, First Church, Atlanta, Georgia directed the music; Rev. Wilburn Matthews, pastor.

Largest Number since 1922

Pheta Church: April 27-May 2; 28 additions, 24 for baptism and four by letter; many rededications; Rev. John Hudson, pastor, evangelist; 24 baptized in the service on Sunday night, May 4; Mr. Hudson states that

this is the largest number to come into the church, at a single time, since 1922.

Pleasant Ridge (Chickasaw): Crusade revival; 13 additions, for baptism; three rededications; Rev. Malcolm Jones, First Church, Houston, evangelist; Rev. Frank Childress, pastor. (There have been 17 additions since Easter — three on Easter Sunday, 13 during the revival; and one the last Sunday in April.)

Pelahatchie (Rankin): Crusade of Americas; April 27-May 2; Rev. Jim Bain, pastor, North Oxford, evangelist; R. L. and Beth Sigrest, Yazoo City, musicians; Rev. Bob Maddux, pastor; 7 professions of faith; one addition by letter; 26 rededications; (some long-time members reported that this was the best-attended revival, morning and evening, in many years.)

have historically stood firmly for and actively supported the principle of the separation of Church and State; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Baptist Hospital in Jackson, Mississippi, owes its existence and continued operation to these Mississippi Baptists committed to this basic principle; and

WHEREAS, past experiences have taught that any efforts to satisfy so-called "guidelines" of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare of the federal government have inevitably resulted in substantial loss of control, and have thereby irrevocably intervened the future of the affected institution with the vacillating political whims and caprices of the federal bureaucracy; and

WHEREAS, we are convinced that the announced intention of the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Baptist Hospital to make such changes in the policies and operation of the Hospital entrusted to their care as are dictated by the various federal bureaucrats in order to be eligible for federal grants and monies is fundamentally wrong and is not in the best interests of the Baptists of Mississippi nor those we seek to swerve through this institution:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RE-



Clarke Ministers' Wives Attend Conference

WHEN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE CONFERENCE was held at First Church, Newton, recently, members of the Ministers' Wives Fellowship of Clarke College dispensed with their regular meeting and as a group attended the Tuesday night session. During the intermission the women held their own little conference and examined materials which might be helpful in their home making programs. In front, left, Mrs. Troy Massey, Cottondale, Ala. and Mrs. Jessie Crestman, Calhoun City, president of the M.W.F.—Standing, left to right, Mrs. William Partridge, Drew; Mrs. Lendell Ainsworth, Marietta, Ga.; Mrs. Bobby Long, Bruce; Mrs. Jerry Westbrook, Jackson; Mrs. J. H. Street, sponsor; Mrs. Jerome McLendon, Hazlehurst; Mrs. J. B. Costlow, Newton; Mrs. Louie Tate, Mt. Hermon, La.; and Mrs. W. L. Compere, sponsor.



VISITS CLINTON—Former congressman and presidential advisor Brooks Hayes visited Mississippi College to address members of the student body and faculty under the sponsorship of Omicron Delta Kappa. He spoke at a special ODK forum and conducted the regular chapel program at the college. Pictured with Hayes, from the left, are Jerry Billingsley of Greenville, wood who introduced the guest; Mr. Hayes; and Walter Price of Amory, ODK president. Mr. Hayes is also a former president of the Southern Baptist Convention. (M.C. Photo)

Magazine Collection to BMC

Miss Bess Hutchins, Professor of Spanish at Blue Mountain College, has presented valuable gifts to the permanent files of Guyton Library. Mrs. Walter F. Taylor, librarian, and Miss Carolyn Mounce, assistant librarian, have received the gifts with enthusiasm.

Miss Hutchins donated the New Yorker from 1941-1955, and the Coronet from May, 1937, to November, 1943.

In addition, she presented her entire collection of Life Magazine, from its first copy to the present date, to the Regional Library at Corinth.

SOLVED by the CARSON BAPTIST CHURCH that we deplore and strongly protest the announced decision of the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Baptist Hospital to change the policies and operations of said Hospital as required by the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare and other federal agencies and bureaus in order to obtain federal grants and monies; and we do further strongly urge said Board of Trustees to immediately reconsider and reverse such decision. Be it further resolved that this resolution be spread on the minutes of this Church and be made public.

Off The Record

There are many stories concerning ministers and their sermons. Have you heard about the young minister who taught his congregation a lesson?

One Sunday, the young minister made the following statement: "Next Sunday I will give a sermon on liars. I would like everyone to read Chapter Seventeen of St. Mark's." He added that this would prepare the congregation for the sermon.

The next Sunday came. The congregation waited for the minister to speak.

He began his sermon by asking a question. He inquired if the congregation had read Chapter Seventeen of St. Mark's. He asked everyone who had to raise their hands. All the hands went up.

The minister then made this observation. "There happen to be only sixteen chapters in St. Mark's. I will now deliver my sermon on liars!"

It Works

"Miss Lawton," said the prospective employer, "Can you type?"

"Oh, yes sir, I use the Biblical system."

"I've never heard of that," commented the man.

"Oh, it's simple," said the secretary, "seek and ye shall find."

Incredible!

"What possible excuse," demanded the outraged judge, "can this jury give for acquitting this man of second-degree murder?"

"Insanity, your honor," replied the jury foreman.

"What, shouted the judge, a twelve of you?"